

21 further discloses the case where TCP communication is not performed between the terminals sending and receiving the email. Thus, a direct connection may not be established between the sender and receiver of the email and it cannot be said that there is a direct connection established between the sender and receiver of electronic mail. ✓

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REMARKS

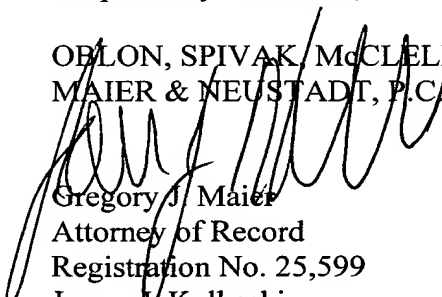
Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

The Supplemental Amendment filed April 8, 1998 did not identify the line number of the insert to page 7 of the specification. This Supplemental properly recites the line number of the insert.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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